

2000 Guests Pack Ballroom to Greet Turkey's President

By Marie McNair

THE PRESIDENT of Turkey and Mme. Bayar saw Washington at its party-giving best yesterday.

Almost 2000 guests jammed the Mayflower's Chinese Room and the golden ballroom for a reception at which the Turkish Ambassador and Mme. Erkin were hosts. The party preceded Acting Secretary of State and Mrs. Walter Bedell Smith's "white tie" dinner at Anderson House in honor of President and Mme. Bayar, and came at the end of a busy day for the visiting dignitaries.

Mme. Erkin, who is recuperating from a severe illness, wasn't up to standing during the long reception hours. Nor did she attend the dinner last night. For the First Lady of Turkey, the stream of guests at the reception must have been tiring and, as she speaks no English, perhaps a little wearing also, for she left the reception line after little more than 45 minutes, to go back to Blair House to rest.

Mme. Bayar, who's not young, gives the appearance of being a kind and patient grandmother—which she is. She's plainly dressed, uses no make-up, and yesterday her gray hair was drawn simply back under a small black hat. She wore no gloves with her black wool tailored suit and white silk blouse fastened at the neckline with a diamond pin.

BEFORE the official reception began, the Chiefs of Mission of the Diplomatic Corps had lined up according to protocol, to march in procession through the lobby, plastered with the red and white Turkish flag, to the Chinese room. Here they were received by President and Mme. Bayar.



Mrs. McNair

The Soviet Ambassador Georgi Zaroubin, the Polish Ambassador Josef Winiewicz and the Argentine Ambassador Hipolito Paz, seemed to be missing from the group which was headed by the dean of the corps, Norwegian Ambassador and Mme. Munthe de Morgenstierne.

Nicaraguan Ambassador Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa, dean of Latin American diplomats, was second in line, but without Senora de Sevilla-Sacasa. Then came the French Ambassador, Henri Bonnet, and Mme. Bonnet in slim black satin with white ermine edging the cap sleeves.

The Indo-China envoys—Viet Nam's Ambassador Tran Van Kha, the Cambodian Ambassador Nong Kimny, and the Minister of Laos, Durot Souvannavong—presented a bold front together.

Just under the line were Yugoslav Ambassador Vladimir Popovic and Mme. Popovic who wore trim black silk, coming in long after the reception had begun were the Peruvian Ambassador and Senora de Berckemeyer.

EVERYWHERE were the red and white Turkish flags; everywhere huge bouquets of red gladioli and white carnations. There were two long buffet tables in the ballroom, where Sidney and his orchestra kept up an obbligate tea-time conversation. On each were miniature replicas of Turkey's mosques, including the domed St. Cecilia, and our own Washington Monument ringed with cherry blossoms. There was a huge iced cake, red and white with the Turkish words "welcome" in sugar.

And there were hundreds of bowls of shrimp, plates of pizza, sandwiches, meat-filled pastries, olives, hot fish balls, cheese patties and cheese spreads. Not to mention four bars.

"Did you ever see so many New Dealers?" someone whispered, as former Secretary of State and Mrs. Dean Acheson stopped to talk to the

Senora de Tello and the Bolivian Ambassador and Senora de Andrade. Mrs. Acheson's pale lavender satin hat was adorned with curling ostrich of the same color.

"Did you ever see so many important people in one room?" someone might have said. There was sprightly Lady Astor, the Virginia-born Nancy Langhorne, speaking her mind. And Mrs. Robert Taft, in her wheel chair, constantly surrounded. Her eyes filled with tears when Edgar Morris of South Carolina said, "I stood up and voted for Bob Taft at the convention."

LADY ASTOR was with Mrs. Robert Carney, wife of the Chief of Naval Operations, who hopes to have the petite and peppery lady as her guest when she returns to Washington for a visit February 10. Only the Cabinet wives seemed to turn up for this party, and of the nine I saw Mrs. George Humphrey and Mrs. Sinclair Weeks.

Miss Frances Perkins, former Secretary of Labor, and Leslie Biffle, former Secretary of the Senate, and Mrs. Biffle talked together. Democratic Jesse Donaldson, former Postmaster General, and Mrs. Donaldson were there, and Homer Cummings, Attorney General in the Roosevelt Administration went down the line with Titian-haired Mrs. Cummings.

Mrs. Harlan Fiske Stone, widow of the Chief Justice, stopped to speak to Mrs. Taft. The Ambassador of El Salvador, Hector de Castro, was introducing a new colleague—Antonio Facio, just arrived to take up duties as Ambassador of Costa Rica. Senora de Facio will come later, he said.

Mrs. G. P. Jooste, pretty wife of the South African Ambassador, wore one of the first straw hats of the season—a white sailor trimmed in green. Senora de Mora's white lilac cap brightened her dark costume, and Mrs. Conger Pratt was one of the most elegant ladies of all—in jet trimmed black satin and a brace of black paradise on her hat.

Senators and Representatives were a dime a dozen. In one quick look I saw Senator and Mrs. Homer Ferguson, Senator and Mrs. Leverett Saltonstall, Senator and Mrs. Edward Martin, Senator and Mrs. Dennis Chavez, Senator and Mrs. Mike Mansfield, Senator and Mrs. Edwin Johnson.

From the House: Representative Charles Halleck.

and Mrs. Arends, in deep red without a hat; and Representative Frances Bolton and Representative Marguerite Church. Mrs. Robert H. Jackson, wife of the Justice, and Mrs. Carl McCordle, wife of the Assistant Secretary of State left together, both bound for their homes in Virginia.

Justice and Mrs. Harold Burton were there and Justice and Mrs. Stanley Reed had the shortest route for the party. They had only to come down from their apartment upstairs.

From the military there were Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy, Gen. and Mrs. J. Lawton Collins, Gen. Lemuel Shepherd, Commandant of the Marine Corps, and Mrs. Shepherd, Lieut. Gen. Charles Cabell, Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, and Mrs. Cabell, and Gen. and Mrs. Wade Haislip. Saw the Finnish Minister Johan Nykopp, talking to Mme. Amjad Ali, wife of the Pakistan Ambassador, in a white and gold sari. The Indian Ambassador and Mme. Mehta whose sari was saffron color with deep blue.

Yes, it was a busy day yesterday for the President of Turkey and Mme. Bayar. It began at 9 a. m. when the Presidential party moved from the White House to Blair House. President Bayar and Turkey's First Lady left a short while later for Mount Vernon where the President laid a wreath on George Washington's tomb. Then followed a stop at Arlington National Cemetery where another wreath was placed at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The distinguished visitors were then entertained at the Mayflower by the press, radio and television group, and at 3:30 went to the Turkish Embassy to receive members of the Turkish colony in Washington. An hour later President and Mme. Bayar were on their way to the Mayflower again to receive Chiefs

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of Mission of the Diplomatic Corps and their wives. Then— with the Ambassador and Mme. Erkin, they took their places to welcome 2000 guests at the reception at which Ambassador and Mme. Erkin were hosts.

Shortly after 7, the President and his party were whisked from the Mayflower to Blair House where they dressed for the Acting Secretary of State and Mrs. Smith's dinner. They were joined at Anderson House by Ambassador Erkin and Embassy Counselor Dr. Fehmi Nuza and Mme. Nuza.

Then there were Justice and Mrs. Stanley Reed, Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. George Humphrey, Senator and Mrs. Alexander Wiley, Senator and Mrs. Mike Mansfield, Representative and Mrs. Robert Chipfield, Representative and Mrs. A. S. J. Carnahan, the Army Chief of Staff and Mrs. Matthew Ridgway, the Chief of Naval Operations and Mrs. Robert Carney, and Gen. J. Lawton Collins, U. S. Representative to NATO and Mrs. Collins.